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hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first-class mail service on the date listed below, and is addressed to Mail Stop Missing Parts, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

Dec 8, 2003  
Date

By Kay Bulen  
Kay Bulen

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Peter H. Kay

Application No.: 10/617,060

Filed: July 8, 2003

For: USE OF FLUORESCENT MOLECULAR BEACONS IN THE DETECTION OF  
METHYLATED NUCLEIC ACIDS

Examiner:

Art Unit: 1645

Docket No.: 47675-52

Date: December 3, 2003

Mail Stop Missing Parts  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Dear Sir:

This Preliminary Amendment is submitted in response to the *Notice to Comply with Requirements for Patent Applications Containing Nucleotide Sequence and/or Amino Acid Sequence Disclosures* mailed by the Patent and Trademark Office on October 17, 2003 (copy enclosed) for the continuation application referenced above. Kindly amend the specification as follows:

**In the Specification:**

On page 14, please replace the first paragraph, extending from line 1 to line 11 with the following: